

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 08858 240453Z

13

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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P R 240419Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2718

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

/USLO PEKING 005

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 8858

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, CB

SUBJ: ACCREDITATION OF CHHUT CHHOEUR, GKR AMBASSADOR
DESIGNATE TO AUSTRALIA

REF: CANBERRA 4682

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY AT A RECEPTION AUGUST 23 TO TAKE AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR MARSAHLL JOHNSTON ASIDE AND TO REFER TO CHHUT CHHOEUR'S SITUATION DESCRIBED REFTEL.

2. JOHNSTON SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTER LONG BORET HAS ASKED TO SEE HIM AUGUST 25 AND THAT HE ASSUMES IT CONCERS CHHOEUR. JOHNSTON IMPLIED THAT WHATEVER THE POLITICAL MERTIS OF THE QUESTION ONE COULD NOT EASILY TOLERATE A DISCOURTESY OF THIS SORT AND THAT HE WOULD TRANSMIT THIS PERSONAL OBSERVATION TO CANBERRA ALONG WITH BORET'S REPRESENTATIONS.

3. JOHNSTON SEEMED EMBARRASSED BY THE WHOLE EPISODE, AS WELL HE MIGHT. SINCE HE HAD SAID IN ANOTHER CONTEXT DURING AN EARLIER CONVERSATION THAT HE IS THINKING ABOUT RECOMMENDING THAT THE EVACUATED MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF RETURN SHOULD THE SITUATION HERE CONTINUE FOR A TIME AS STABLE AS IT IS NOW, I ASSUME WHITLAM'S BEHAVIOR
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REFLECTS AUSTRALIAN REPORTING FROM PEKING, NOT PHNOM PENH.

SWANK

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Message Attributes

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